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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

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INFORMATION REPORT

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1. At an unspecified date in 1951, a nuclear physics commission (Kernphysikalische Kommission) was formed in East Germany. The following are some of its members: Prof. Dr. Walter Friedrich, president of the German Academy of Science., Berlin; Prof. Dr. Robert Rompe, head of the Second Institute of Physics at Berlin Humboldt University; Dr. Georg Otterbein, Referent for technical sciences at the Berlin Academy; Prof. Dr. Friedrich Möglich, head of the Academy Institute for Physical Research on Solids in Berlin-Buch. The commission is purported to do pure nuclear research (Kernphysikalische Grundlagenforschung), as well as nuclear research for medical, biological, and other applications. The commission works under the auspices of the Berlin Academy of Sciences.

2. The most important piece of equipment at the disposal of the commission will be a cascade generator which is now under construction at Transformatoren- und Röntgenwerk (formerly Koch und Sterzel), Dresden. The order for its construction was given by the Berlin Academy. The order prescribed construction of a generator similar to the one which was in operation at the Kaiser-Wilhelm-Institute in Berlin-Dahlem until 1945, when it was dismantled by the Russians. The generator now under construction will consist of two pieces of 1.4 Mev, one of them positive, the other one negative which is connected to the ground, so that its total energy will be 2.8 Mev. The generator, however, will have a greater height then its Kaiser-Wilhelm-Institute model. The difference in height is caused by lack of adequate capacitator paper and insulating material, which forced the constructing firm to use substitutes increasing the height of the generator. Engineer Hans Stamm, head of Koch und Sterzel's research and development department and one of the editors of Technisches Zentralbaltt (Akademie-Verlag publication), is in charge of the construction of the generator. When completed, the generator will go to the Academy Institute for Medicine and Biology at Lindenberger-Weg 76 in Berlin-Buch (former brain research institute) and its head, Prof. Walter Friedrich, will be in charge of it. It will be installed on the foundation wall of a chapel, recently torn down, on the terrain of the institute.

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3. The Berlin Academy of Science ordered a rheotron from Transformatoren- und Röntgenwerk, which is also under construction under the direction of engineer Hans Stamm. This will be a small-type rheotron of about 10 Mev.* After completion, the rheotron will go to Miersdorf to the so-called Zeuthen-Institute, where the war time German Reichspost cyclotron was established. The hall where the Reichspost cyclotron was put up, is now being re-arranged for housing the rheotron.

4. In 1950, the Central Planning Commission of the Ministry for Planning ordered the development of a linear accelerator (Linearbeschleuniger) by the Heinrich-Hertz-Institute for Oscillation Research in Berlin-Adlershof. The order was not executed, however, because of a lack of experts. In Germany, the idea of a linear accelerator making use of 10-cm waves travelling with electron-impulses through a long straight tube, was first developed during the war by Steimel, now in Russia. When, in December 1950, fnu Dierbach returned from Russia, where he had been with Steimel, the plan of constructing an accelerator was reexamined. It was abandoned again, when Dierbach went to West Germany shortly after his return from Russia. (He is now with Telefunken, Ulm). The H. H. Institute for Oscillation Research has now(approximately October 1951) received the renewed orders from the Central Planning Commission for construction of linear accelerator producing 2 to 3 Mev with a two-meter tube. This accelerator is scheduled to go to the Zeuthen Institute mentioned above. Work has not yet begun because of the continued lack of experts.

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[redacted] Comment: The German rheotron designed during the war and completed after the end of hostilities by Siemens-Reiniger, Erlangen, and now installed at the Max Plank Institute for Physics, Göttingen, has 6 Mev.